



TENNESSEE WEEKLY  
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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RAIN IMPROVES SOYBEANS AND PASTURES

A cold front moved through the state early last week bringing cooler temperatures and scattered showers, helping improve soybean and pasture conditions. Harvest of the state’s fall crops and spraying defoliant to cotton were the main activities during the week. Corn and cotton producers made good harvest progress, but the pace continued to lag behind both the previous year and 5-year average. Some farmers that have completed corn harvest are now preparing fields for planting wheat. Soybeans continued to drop leaves, as Group 3 and Group 4 varieties reached maturity. Harvest slightly advanced on the State’s single crop soybeans. Tobacco harvest neared completion, while burley stripping started on a limited basis. Fall pastures were reported to be in fair-to-good condition. Rainfall was above average across most of the state for the week with the exception of West Tennessee where rainfall was below normal. There were 5 days considered suitable for field work last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 6 percent short, 86 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus, while subsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 28, 2003					CONDITION: On September 26, 2003					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2002	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Harvest	75	58	87	85	Cotton	0	3	19	60	18
Corn Silage - Harvest	94	90	99	99	Soybeans	0	1	14	57	28
Cotton - Bolls Opening	73	55	93	96	Pastures	1	4	19	60	16
Cotton - Defoliated	40	24	61	71	Cattle	0	2	18	63	17
Cotton - Harvested	7	2	12	25						
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	47	34	58	58						
Soybeans - Harvested	5	2	9	11						
Tobacco - Burley Harvested	90	80	86	90						
Tobacco - Burley Stripped	6	N/A	8	7						
Tobacco - Air Cured Harvested	95	88	95	96						
Tobacco - Fire Cured Harvested	88	76	91	93						

**CORN:** Harvest activities were in high gear due to nearly ideal weather conditions last week. Harvest is running slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. Corn harvested for silage neared completion.

**COTTON:** Growers made good progress harvesting and spraying defoliant after rain hit early last week. Harvest is slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. The crop’s condition decreased slightly to fair-to-good due to sporadic rain showers and cooler temperatures.

**SOYBEANS:** Harvest continues to be very limited with 5 percent completed by week’s end. The pace should pick up rapidly over the next few weeks as more of the acreage reaches maturity. The majority of the crop remains in good-to-excellent condition. Isolated areas were still reporting some disease problems.

**TOBACCO:** As of Sunday, only 10 percent of the burley crop had not been harvested. Burley producers took advantage of early morning fogs to begin stripping tobacco. Low humidity, wind, and cool temperatures helped with curing conditions.

**CATTLE, PASTURES & HAY:** Producers had favorable conditions for harvesting hay in some areas of the State last week. Pasture remained in fair-to-good condition, while fall seedings were in progress. Cattle were rated in mostly good condition.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 09/28/03 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 09/28/03				Current Week	Rain	Current	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	09/28/03	Days	Since January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	88	48	68	+0	2.00	1	53.78	+14.75	2355	+27
Tri-City_RGNL_A	83	47	66	+2	1.85	3	54.55	+22.95	1632	+27
Brownsville_TN	87	52	69	-1	1.58	1	43.86	+4.90	2545	+477
Chattanooga/Lov	84	53	70	+2	3.27	3	54.37	+14.15	2348	+106
Clarksville_Sew	83	49	67	+0	4.10	3	43.12	+5.56	2232	+145
Cookeville	84	47	66	+0	3.76	4	54.37	+11.54	1795	+493
Covington	84	51	67	-2	1.97	1	43.26	+5.07	2232	-140
Crossville_AP	78	48	66	+3	4.76	4	55.36	+13.58	1628	+152
Dickson_AG	80	42	62	-6	4.22	1	47.01	+6.77	1648	-523
Dover_1W	82	49	66	+0	1.80	3	44.86	+5.77	2017	+160
Dyersburg	84	48	67	-3	1.68	1	38.72	+1.55	2366	-150
Erwin_1W	82	50	66	+4	1.75	3	43.97	+5.85	1553	-350
Huntingdon_Wate	84	49	66	-2	1.39	2	42.80	+3.27	2142	+166
Jackson_AG	87	47	68	-1	1.35	3	39.69	+0.94	2301	+24
Kingston_AG	83	49	67	+2	3.99	3	54.57	+10.74	1875	+156
Knoxville_AP	83	51	69	+3	3.02	3	49.49	+13.68	2111	+178
Lewisburg	87	44	66	-1	3.70	3	52.11	+11.38	1940	-2
Lexington_TN	85	48	67	-2	3.20	3	46.55	+8.85	2140	+746
Linden	85	47	66	+0	2.63	2	50.50	+9.33	1908	-50
Martin	85	47	66	-2	1.87	1	45.67	+6.47	2181	+7
Mc_Minnville_Tn	84	48	67	+0	2.65	3	49.21	+9.18	2072	-344
Memphis_AG	87	49	69	-3	1.96	1	45.52	+7.48	2461	-355
Milan	85	48	66	-2	1.80	2	42.90	+2.40	2180	+55
Murfreesboro_5N	83	48	67	-1	3.54	2	48.72	+8.63	2062	-350
Nashville_Metro	84	50	69	+2	5.59	3	52.07	+16.32	2273	-19
Newcomb	81	49	65	+3	3.22	3	55.13	+13.81	1652	+264
Oneida	81	48	65	+3	3.05	3	50.10	+8.78	1630	-428
Pikeville	83	48	67	-1	3.16	2	54.22	+14.12	2021	+132
Portland_TN	83	49	66	+0	4.64	2	50.13	+11.58	1925	+24
Pulaski_Water_P	84	47	67	-3	5.19	3	51.08	+10.11	2055	-222
Savannah_6SW	85	48	67	-4	2.59	3	56.76	+14.76	2043	+25
Sparta_TN	85	47	68	+3	4.08	2	57.20	+15.89	2059	+418
Springfield	84	49	66	-1	3.89	4	42.74	+5.69	1944	+43
Springhill	87	45	69	+3	6.55	2	54.45	+13.74	2160	+227
Union_City	84	47	65	-3	2.05	1	42.26	+4.08	2025	-80
Waynesboro_TN	84	45	65	-2	7.04	2	56.35	+13.65	1943	-240

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).    GDD = Growing Degree Days.  
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.    Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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